10/587807

¡AP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 28 JUL 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit

Customer No. 035811

Examiner

Serial No. Filed

: Herewith

PCT No. PCT Filed

: PCT/JP2004/018223 : December 1, 2004

Inventors

: Yukio Miyata

: Mitsuo Kimura

: Noritsugu Itakura

: Katsumi Masamura

Conf. No.:

Title

: MARTENSITIC STAINLESS STEEL PIPE

Dated: July 28, 2006

Docket: JFE-06-1181

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MAIL STOP PCT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to action on the merits, Applicants respectfully request consideration of the following amendments and remarks: